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TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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ATTN PARIS FOR MARK PRATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, XC, US

SUBJECT: FEBRUARY 17 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. MONDALE'S ASIAN TRIP

US OFFICIALS REVEALED THURS VP IS PLANNING VISIT AUSTRALIA/NZ/PHLIS/INDONESIA IN APRIL; SAID FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE IN ABOUT 2 WKS, AFTER ITINERARY FOR CARTER'S LATIN AMERICAN/AFRICAN TRIP LATE NEXT MONTH HAS BEEN DECIDED. SOURCES SAID THOUGH NO FINAL DECISION MADE, UNCLASSIFIED

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VIRTUALLY CERTAIN MONDALE TRIP WILL TAKE PLACE. ONE OFFICIAL CLOSELY INVOLVED IN PLANNING ADDED: TRIP NOT "COMPLETELY FIRM" YET, "BUT IF NOTHING INTRUDES, IT WILL GO AHEAD" (REUTER, CSM).

2. PHILIPPINES

REUTER (MANILA) REPORTS IMELDA MARCOS SAID 2/17 SHE WILL RUN IN UPCOMING PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS, CONTESTING FOR ONE OF 21 SEATS AT STAKE IN METROPOLITAN MANILA; ADDED SHE

DECIDED RUN AFTER BEING URGED DO SO BY THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE.

AQUINO'S WIFE THURS DISTRIBUTED COPIES OF HIS LTR TO MARCOS REQUESTING RELEASE FROM DETENTION, UNDER ANY CONDITIONS GOP DEEMED NECESSARY FOR SECURITY PURPOSES, IN ORDER CAMPAIGN (NYT MANILA SPEC).

IN WEDS STATEMENT RELEASED BY PHILS EMBASSY, MARCOS GOVT REFUTED DOS CHARGES IT VIOLATES HUMAN RIGHTS; CONTENDED MARTIAL LAW SYSTEM LEGAL UNDER NATION'S CONSTITUTION. STATEMENT DECLARED GOP "UNQUALIFIEDLY CONDEMNS TORTURE OF DETAINEES" DOES NOT TOLERATE PRACTICE/ EXERTS EVERY EFFORT PREVENT ITS USE/PUNISHES THOSE GUILTY OF MALTREATMENT (AP 2/16).

3. THAILAND

RTG GRANTS THAI CITIZENSHIP TO MORE THAN 4,000 CHILDREN OF US-THAI PARENTS, ABANDONED BY FATHERS DURING INDOCHINA WAR (WP).

THAI POLICE INTERROGATING AMCIT SARAH CHILD/2 AUSSIE UNCLASSIFIED

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COMPANIONS FOR POSSESSION EXPLOSIVES. TRIO TOLD DIPLOS THEY WOULD PLEAD NOT GUILTY TO CHARGE. SOURCES SAID 1 OF AUSSIES ADMITTED BEING MEMBER INDIAN RELIGIOUS ORG "ANANDA MARGA;" OTHER FORMER MEMBER; BOTH SAID CHILD ALSO MEMBER. ORG HAS BEEN ACCUSED OF SEVERAL ATTACKS ON INDIAN DIPLOS AROUND WORLD (REUTER BANGKOK 2/16).

LORENZ DOES LONG PIECE (JOC BANGKOK) ON INVESTMENT PROBLEMS IN THAILAND. SAYS EXTERNAL INVESTMENT FIGURES SHOW NO GAINS SINCE LAST CHANGE GOVT, THAT RUMORS CIRCULATING NEW COUP IN AIR, THO SOURCES SAY NOT BEFORE OCT WHEN NEW BUDGET/ANNUAL MIL PROMOTION LIST WILL ALREADY BE OUT. QUOTES JAPANESE BUSINESSMAN THAT JAPANESE "NO LONGER MUCH INTERESTED IN THAILAND" BECAUSE IT IS "TOO CLOSE TO THE COMMUNISTS." CITES AS PROBLEMS INFLUENCING INVESTMENT SCENE: COMMUNIST INSURGENCIES/BORDER CONFLICTS; MILITANT RIGHT-WING ELEMENTS (I.E. GEN PRAPAS CHARUSTHIRA WHOSE ASSETS WERE FROZEN IN '73); TRIAL OF THAMMASAT 18; INVOLVEMENT THRU YRS OF PM KRIANGSAK IN DRUG TRADE; PROBABILITY RICE PRODUCTION SHORTAGE THIS YR. CONCLUDES TIME "RUNNING OUT FOR THAILAND," THAT FON INVESTORS SAY THEY WILL DEPART IF ANOTHER COUP TAKES PLACE.

4. CHINA

HR HALDEMAN IN JUST PUBLISHED BOOK, "THE ENDS OF POWER," ALLEGES USSR IN '69 ASKED US JOIN IN NUKE ATTACK ON PRC'S

ATOMIC PLANTS. WHEN TURNED DOWN, HALDEMAN SAYS, SOVIETS

DECIDED GO AHEAD ON OWN. SAYS DISASTER THAT WOULD HAVE
RESULTED AVERTED BY COMBINATION OF US DIPLO MOVES/INTELLIGENCE PLOY PATTERNED ON TACTIC USED DURING '62 CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS.

ACCORDING HALDEMAN, RUSSIANS MOVED SEVERAL NUKE-ARMED DIVISIONS W/IN 2 MILES PRC BORDER/PLANNED "SURGICAL"
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STRIKE TO WIPE OUT PRC NUKE PLANTS. HALDEMAN SAYS KISSINGER DID NOT AT FIRST RECOGNIZE GRAVITY OF SITUATION BUT WHEN DID, HE/NIXON TOLD SOVIETS US WANTED BE FRIEND OF CHINA. CLAIMS STOESSEL (THEN US AMB TO POLAND) WAS ORDERED APPROACH CHINESE ENVOY/SAY US WANTED RESUME WARSAW TALKS. MEANWHILE, USAF INTELL CHIEF GEN KEEGAN DECIDED USE SIMILAR PLOY USED DURING CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS. AT THAT TIME, USAF DELIBERATELY SENT SEC DOD UNCODED MESSAGE WHICH SOVIETS COULD INTERCEPT--RE US NUKE AIMED AT SOVIET CITIES. KEEGAN'S MESSAGE DETAILED HOW NUKE FALLOUT FROM SOVIET STRIKE WOULD KILL RUSSIANS IN SIBERIA. HALDEMAN SAID SOVIETS FINALLY REALIZED THEY COULD NOT TAKE CHANCE, THUS W/DREW DIVISIONS FROM PRC BORDER (AP, SUN; PHINQ).

HAK/WM ROGERS DISPUTE HALDEMAN ACCOUNT FORMER FLATLY STATING (ON NBC/TV'S "TODAY" SHOW 2/16), "IT'S NOT TRUE"/ "I DO NOT RECALL ANY SUCH EVENT AND I WOULDN'T HAVE FORGOTTEN IT." NYT'S SMITH NOTES HALDEMAN'S ACCOUNT ALSO IMPLIES OPENING IN WARSAW LED TO PEKING'S INVITATION FOR NIXON VISIT CHINA. REUTER'S SPIEGELMAN (2/16) OBSERVES OTHER ACCOUNTS BY NIXON ADMIN OFFICIALS, HOWEVER, INDICATE FEELERS TO CHINA MADE LONG BEFORE/PRESIDENT'S VISIT DEVELOPED THRU PAK INTERMEDIARIES.

USAF'S KEEGAN, HOWEVER, CONFIRMED 2/16 THAT HALDEMAN ACCOUNT BASICALLY CORRECT, BUT THAT '69 WARNING TO SOVIETS CONVEYED VERBALLY RATHER THAN THRU MIL CABLES DESIGNED BE INTERCEPTED. HAK, WHILE DENYING HALDEMAN ACCOUNT, DID SAY US AT TIME WAS CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF SOVIET ATTACK ON PRC, BUT THAT THIS DID NOT ARISE FROM SPECIFIC SOVIET WARNING CONVEYED TO US (DEWAR/SMITH, WP).

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REUTER (MOSCOW) REPORTS SOVIETS FRI REJECTED AS "LIE FROM BEGINNING TO END" HALDEMAN'S CLAIMS MOSCOW HAD PLANNED NUKE STRIKE ON PRC.

PRC EXPECTED IMPORT AS MUCH STEEL FROM JAPAN IN '78 AS IT DOES FROM US, ACCORDING US INDUSTRY SOURCES. LAST YR, PRC BROUGHT 4.5 MIL TONS STEEL FROM JAPAN/7.1 MIL FROM US. PURCHASES FROM US IN '78 EXPECTED DECLINE

25-30 PCT BECAUSE OF US TRIGGER PRICE SYSTEM (TOKYO UNICOM, JOC).

YU (WSTAR 2/16) DOES NEWS FEATURE ON ROC TRADE MISSION, NOW IN US, HEADED BY HK SHAO, DIRECTOR/GENERAL ROC BOARD FON TRADE. SHAO, IN INTERVIEW, SAYS "WE'RE HERE TO GIVE SPECIAL TREATMENT" TO US, NOTES MISSION HAS ALREADY PURCHASED SOME 234 MIL DOLS US AGRIC/INDUSTRIAL GOODS.

MATHEWS (LAT HK 2/16) REPORTS FIRST NATL BANK OF CHICAGO ESTABLISHED COMMERCIAL BANKING RELS W/BANK OF CHINA. FIRST CHICAGO TO HAVE EDGED OUT NINE OTHER US COMPETITORS IN MAKING DEAL AFTER FIRST CURTAILING ITS OWN BUSINESS W/ROC.

5. CHINA/JAPAN

PRC/JAPAN 2/16 FORMALLY SIGNED LONG-TERM TRADE AGREEMENT, DESIGNED STIMULATE EXCHANGES WORTH 20 BIL DOLS OVER NEXT 8 YRS. SIGNING TOOK PLACE IN PEKING'S GREAT HALL BY PRC FON TRADE VICE MINISTER LIU HIS-WEN/YOSHIIHIRO INAYAMA, HEAD, JAPAN-CHINA LONG-TERM TRADE AGREEMENT ASSN (TOKYO AP NYT, GLOBE; PHINQ PEKING; ISAACS, SUN HK; CULLISON, JOC TOKYO).

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INCREASINGLY CLOSE JAPAN-CHINA RELS (CHAPMAN TOKYO, WP). WILL GIVE JAPANESE MANUFACTURERS STRONG ENTRY INTO PRC TECHNOLOGY MKT/BIGGER SHARE CHINESE OIL PUTS PRC WELL AHEAD SOVIETS IN EXPLOITING TRADE OPPORTUNITIES W/JAPAN (LACHICA WSJ TOKYO).

FOR SOVIETS, PACT SEEN AS DIRECT AFFRONT, WITH EVENTUALLY PROMPT RETALIATION, PERHAPS IN FORM OF RESTRICTING JAPAN'S ACCESS TO SOVIET FISHING GROUNDS IN PACIFIC (MALCOLM NYT). MEANWHILE, REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER PACT WILL PAVE WAY FOR LONG-DELAYED PRC/JAPAN PFT (MORITZ CSM HK).

6. JAPAN

CULLISON (TOKYO JOC) REPORTS EC/JAPANESE NEGOTIATORS ENDED 4 DAYS "ALMOST FRUITLESS TRADE DISCUSSIONS" W/O REACHING EVEN PARTIAL UNDERSTANDING ON WAYS IN WHICH JAPAN CAN REDRESS MASSIVE TRADE SURPLUS. TALKS ON SAME

SUBJECT EXPECTED TO BE HELD NEXT MONTH TOKYO. EC
OFFICIALS REPORTED TO SEE NO EVIDENCE JAPANESE WILL OPEN
DOMESTIC MKTS TO EUROPEAN PRODUCTS. APPARENTLY, ONLY

MAJOR CONCESSION MADE BY JAPANESE WAS THAT REPLY TO
DEMANDS OF EC TEAM WOULD BE FORTHCOMING BEFORE END OF
MONTH.

EXTERNAL ECON AFFAIRS MINISTER INDICATES NOT LIKELY JAPAN
WILL MAKE ANY SPECIAL TRADE CONCESSIONS TO EC, DESPITE
BITTER COMPLAINTS FROM EUROPEANS RE TRADE SURPLUS.
IN 2/16 SPEECH TO JAPANESE BUSINESSMEN, USHIBA SAID IT
WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR JAPAN TO MAKE SPECIAL TRADE
CONCESSIONS TO EC BEYOND THOSE CONTAINED IN OVERALL TRADE
AGREEMENT W/US. USHIBA'S REMARKS CAME AS SENIOR OFFICIAL
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OF EC, BENEDICT MEYNELL, TOLD NEWS CONF JAPANESE SURPLUS
HAD BECOME "BURNING ISSUE"; THAT JAPAN MUST REDRESS
IMBALANCE (WEEKS REUTER, TOKYO 2/16).

7. KOREA

IN TAPED TV INTERVIEW W/EVANS/NOVAK TO BE BROADCAST 3/1,
HOUSE SPKR THOMAS O'NEILL (D-MASS) CHARGES REP CAPUTO
(R-NY), MEMBER HOUSE ETHICS CMTE, HAS BEEN USING 2 AIDES
TO CHECK ON SEX LIVES OF FELLOW CONGRESSMEN/USING KOREAN
INFLUENCE-BUYING INVESTIGATION "TO PROPEL HIMSELF INTO
HIGHER PUBLIC LIFE." CAPUTO ISSUED STATEMENT EXPRESSING
REGRET O'NEILL HAD MADE "DEFAMATORY STATEMENTS WHICH HE
HIMSELF DESCRIBES AS HEARSAY." SPEAKER'S STAFF LATER
NOTED BAN ON INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATIONS BY CMTE MEMBERS/
NO SECRET 2 CAPUTO'S STAFF MEMBERS MAKING OWN INQUIRIES
ABOUT SK INFLUENCE-BUYING CHARGES (WP'S LYONS; NYDN'S
VOLZ; UPI, NYT).

SPEAKING TO KOREAN-AMERICAN FRIENDLY ASSOC, SK DEP
PREM NAM DUCK-NOO THURS NIGHT CALLED FOR US-KOREAN JOINT
VENTURES IN INDUST/SOCIAL PROJECTS IN DEVELOPING WORLD/
FOR FREER TRADE AROUND WORLD (REUTER SEOUL 2/16).

8. PHILIPPINES/THAILAND/HUMAN RIGHTS

EA'S OAKLEY TOLD HOUSE INTL RELS SUBCMTE THURS THAT
HUMAN RTS SITUATION IN PHILS IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION
IN DETERMINING LEVEL MIL AID, THAT US BASES THERE REGARDED
AS "COMPLEMENTARY AND IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS" TO US-
PHILS SECURITY. OAKLEY ACKNOWLEDGED SERIOUS HUMAN RTS
PROBLEMS IN PHILS, BUT SAID DOS ENCOURAGED BY REPORTS GOP
ACTING TO CURB USE TORTURE BY SECURITY OFFICIALS.

RE THAILAND, OAKLEY SAID DOS CONFIDENT MIL ASSISTANCE NOT

BEING USED IN REGULAR LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES; SAID
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EMPHASIS IS ON MODERNIZING CONVENTIONAL FORCES, ALTHO SOME

EQUIPMENT WOULD BE USED IN COUNTER-INSURGENCY OPRNS.
OAKLEY NOTED "ENCOURAGING MOVEMENT FORWARD" IN THAI
HUMAN RTS SINCE NEW GOVT CAME TO POWER/SAID FAILURE
RECOGNIZE THAILAND'S LEGITIMATE SECURITY CONCERNS WOULD
HAVE "SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES" FOR US INTERESTS IN THAILAND/
ELSEWHERE IN ASIA (REUTER 2/16).

9. GENERAL

SCM'S STROUT (2/16) CITES AID ADMINISTRATOR GILLIGAN'S
REMARKS TO REPORTERS ON FUTURE US FON AID. QUOTES
GILLIGAN THAT WORLD IMBALANCE BETWN RICH/POOR CARRIES
GRAVE DANGERS FOR US, SINCE US BANKS UNDERWRITE
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES' UNFAVORABLE TRADE BALANCES.
GILLIGAN SAID TARIFF BARRIERS ON THEIR EXPORTS INCREASE
UNFAVORABLE TRADE BALANCES/HUMAN SUFFERING. CONTENDED
POOR NATIONS WILL NOT ACCEPT THEIR SUBORDINATE POSITION
INDEFINITELY, THAT RICH COUNTRIES SHOULD AID THEM "IN
THEIR OWN SELF INTEREST." NOTED AID HAS SHIFTED WHOLE
APPROACH IN RECENT YRS TO PROGRAM SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN
FOOD/LOWERED BIRTHRATES/SOCIAL BETTERMENT. CITED
INDONESIA AS EXAMPLE OF COUNTRY WHOSE FERTILITY RATE HAS
DROPPED 3 PCT, WHILE THAT IN PHILS WILL INCREASE 20-FOLD
THIS CENTURY.

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

10. JAPAN

JAMESON (LAT TOKYO 2/15) DISCUSSES ADJUSTMENT PROBLEMS
FACED BY CHILDREN OF JAPANESE BUSINESSMEN/DIPLOMATS
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UPON RETURN HOME AFTER LIVING ABROAD IN WEST. ACCORDING
ONE PROF, ANN MURASE OF SOPHIA UNIVERSITY, NO PLACE IN
JAPANESE SOCIETY FOR "BI-CULTURAL" CHILD/COUNTRY WILL
NOT TOLERATE SOMEONE "DIFFERENT." PROBLEM SEEN ON RISE
AS MORE JAPANESE PROFESSIONALS ASSIGNED TO JOBS OVER-
SEAS. NOTES, AS CONSEQUENCE, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
APPROVED FUNDS CONSTRUCT SPECIAL HIGH SCHOOL FOR
RETURNEES WHICH WILL BE RUN AS PRIVATE SCHOOL ON CAMPUS
INTL CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY IN TOKYO. VANCE

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